



News Notes

Dorm managers wanted – The 15th Civil Engineer Squadron is looking for highly motivated Air Force members in the grade of staff sergeant or above who are interested in being considered for dorm manager positions here. The positions are both challenging and rewarding. Packages should include the applicant's last five performance reports, three letters of recommendation and a resume. For more information, contact Dot Canfield at 448-2007.

Top 3 meeting – The Hawaii Top 3 meeting is Tuesday at 3 p.m. in the enlisted club. Col. Bill "Goose" Changose, 15th Airlift Wing commander, will be the guest speaker.

Flying training – The next undergraduate flying training selection board convenes at the Air Force Personnel Center Jan. 10, 2006. This selection board reviews active-duty applications for selection to pilot, navigator or air battle manager training. Those officers with a date of birth after April 1, 1976, and a total federal service commitment date after April 1, 2001, who meet other eligibility criteria are eligible to apply for the training. Applicants must send completed applications, postmarked by Nov. 23 to HQ AFPC/DPAOT3, 550 C Street West, Suite 31, Randolph AFB, Texas, 78150-4733. For more information on application procedures, see Air Force Instruction 36-2205 or contact the formal training department.

Power outage – A power outage is scheduled for July 14 from 8 a.m. to noon in all of Onizuka Village on Apollo Avenue, Mercury Street and Gemini Avenue. The outage is occurring to allow for replacement of a defective high voltage switch gear.

Prior to the power outage, all stereos, microwaves, televisions, all

See NEWS NOTES, A8

In this week's Kukini



Discover scuba diving
B5

Around the Air Force A7
Classifieds B7-B12
Crossword B2
Movies B2
Perspective A2
Services B3
Sports B5

C-17 – New units activated

Staff Sgt. Betty Squatrito-Martin
15th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

The 15th Airlift Wing welcomed a new maintenance group here June 22.

The new 15th Maintenance Group will be responsible for maintaining the new fleet of C-17s that will make Hickam their home in January 2006.

The 15th MXG is comprised of operations, aircraft maintenance, and maintenance squadrons. Col. Larry Stephens commands the group.

The aircraft maintenance Airmen will be responsible for flight line maintenance, while the maintenance squadron will handle the repairs that have to go to the shop, and the operations squadron will provide maintenance training, resources and services.

Although the maintenance group has only recently activated, maintenance training and repairs have been taking place with regularity.

According to Senior Master Sgt. Jeff Duncan of the 15th Maintenance Squadron, the 735th Air

Mobility Command has provided many opportunities for training on the C-17 here. In fact, a C-17 from McChord Air Force Base, Wash., recently spent some time on the flight line here in order for C-17 aircraft maintainers to gain currency and proficiency on maintaining the C-17.

Due to the associate nature of the C-17 mission, the Hawaii Air National Guard will be part of the C-17 maintenance group.

The C-17 mission has a unique association with the HIANG.

Ownership of the C-17 aircraft will be at the hands of the 15th Airlift Wing, and the HIANG will provide flight crews and maintenance troops for the mission.

The operations side of the house will be more like a traditional associate unit consisting of the 535th Airlift Squadron from the 15th AW and the 204th Airlift Squadron from the 154th Wing of the HIANG. Both airlift squadrons are up and running.

The maintenance side of the

See SQUADRON, A6



Photo by Mark Bates

Members of the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command await the remains of MIA servicemembers carried by a multi-service honor guard June 24. The possible remains are being returned from Palau, China, North Korea and Laos. The remains are from World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam Conflict.

Remains return to American soil

Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command
Public Affairs

Remains believed to be associated with missing Americans from three wars were honored in a ceremony June 24 at 9 a.m. outside of the 15th Airlift Wing Base Operations.

A joint honor guard memorialized the arrival of the remains that are from World War II, Vietnam, and the Korean War. Following the arrival ceremony, the remains were trans-

ported to the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command's Central Identification Laboratory where the forensic identification process began.

JPAC teams brought four transfer cases that hold what is believed to be the remains of missing military members. The cases were from Laos, Palau, China and North Korea.

The U.S. government, the Department of Defense, and the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command are committed to scientific excellence

and the fullest possible accounting of all Americans still missing as a result of our nation's conflicts. JPAC continues to fulfill America's promise to the POW/MIA families and those Americans still waiting to come home.

Today, there is one American still missing from the Gulf War, more than 1,800 from the Vietnam War, 120 from the Cold War, more than 8,100 from the Korean War, and more than 78,000 from World War II.

Childcare providers needed

By Senior Airman Sarah Kinsman
Kukini Editor

Team Hickam is in need of people interested in watching children in their homes.

The child development center does not have enough space in its facilities for the number of infants on Hickam.

"We have a four-to-one ratio for infants," said Beth Hodge, 15th Services Squadron.

The family childcare program allows people who live on base to get certified and watch children in their homes. Anyone watching children, other than their own, for more than 10 hours a week must be certified.

"One person can watch up to six children," said Mrs. Hodge. "They can have two under the age of two."

Parents can rest assured their children are in good hands with the Hickam family childcare providers.

"Our providers undergo a series of background checks and training before they are certified to watch children in their homes," said Richland Okini, FCC coordinator.

Each provider individualizes his or her childcare program and charges different rates.

See CHILDCARE, A6

Education

54 Hickam Airmen graduate from ALS

By Senior Master Sgt. Tammy Whitney-Rush
Professional Military Education Center
Director of Education

The Hickam Professional Military Education Center hosted the graduation banquet for Airman Leadership School Class 05-C Wednesday.

More than 300 guests were treated to an entertaining evening highlighted by guest speaker Chief Master Sergeant Richard Montecalvo, 15th Maintenance Group superintendent.

Staff Sergeant Jodi Burris, Joint Intelligence Center Pacific, garnered top honors as the John L. Levitow Award recipient. Senior Airman Le' Joyce Harvey, 15th Medical Operations Squadron, earned the Academic

Achievement Award and the Distinguished Graduate Award.

Senior Airman Jamie Willemin, 15th Communications Squadron, earned the Leadership Award. Other distinguished graduates included Staff Sergeant Justin Bugliesi, JICPAC,

Senior Airman Rebecca Martin, 324th Intelligence Squadron, and Senior Airman Virginia Muniz, 26th Air and Space Intelligence Squadron.

During the class, the students volunteered their off-duty time at Aliamanu Elementary School installing security screens over windows, erecting poles for new marquis signs, and doing general grounds maintenance on the campus.

Additionally, they participated in the PME Center's Adopt-a-Highway cleanup program.

Upon graduation from ALS, each student receives nine semester hours of college credit from the Community College of the Air Force. Graduation from ALS completes the first of four levels of Air Force professional military education.

The graduates of ALS Class 05-C are:

15th Aeromedical-Dental Squadron

Marcus Poulos

Carla Whiteside

15th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

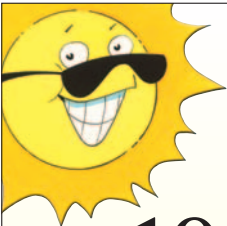
Kelly Sanders

15th Civil Engineer Squadron

Irish Barretto

Tommy Jackson

See GRADUATION, A3



101
Critical Days
of Summer

Falling

When handrails
are loose, you
are sure to
land on your
caboose!

Fourth of July: ... with liberty and justice for all

By Gen. Paul Hester
Pacific Air Forces commander

More than two centuries ago our founding fathers declared independence from British rule ... a war resulted ... a fledgling nation started and rule "of the people and by the people" was

born. Ever since, Americans have worked together to build a Nation where all people are equal, "endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights," and where its citizens are free to pursue their individual dreams.

This Independence Day we remember the brave men

and women of the armed forces for their service ... and for their sacrifices. They are America's sons and daughters, mothers and fathers. We are grateful for their dedication, courage and for protecting the principles and liberties won so long ago.

Our Pledge of Allegiance

captures, in its simplicity, the greatness and nobleness of our founders: "... One nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all." Lynda and I wish you and your families the continued blessings of Freedom and a safe and enjoyable celebration of America's 229th birthday.

Consider your fortune

Life, liberty, pursuit of happiness

By Col. Bill "Goose" Changose
15th Airlift Wing commander

"... certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." Famous words from our Declaration of Independence which have a special meaning for all Americans as we celebrate this 4th of July weekend. They should also have special meaning for all of us in the Air Force as we watch the news from our Air Force Academy. America's strength is its diversity.

The "fabric" that is the United States is formed by weaving different cultures, religions, races and genders into one unifying framework. Any one of these "ingredients" on its own is not as strong as when all of them are combined in that uniquely American way.

Our forefathers knew and believed this, they wrote it down and decided to separate from England because of it, and some paid the ultimate price because of their beliefs. As you celebrate this weekend please take a moment to consider just how fortunate we are to enjoy the freedoms we have.

Congratulations to Staff Sgt. Scott Tamayo who was named one of the 12 Outstanding Airmen of



Photo by Staff Sgt. Betty Squatrito-Martin

Col. Bill "Goose" Changose, 15th Airlift Wing commander, speaks to the Hickam Company Grade Officer Council June 23.

the Year for the Air Force. I have had the opportunity to talk with Scott and can assure you the Air Force made exactly the right choice!

A special thanks to the Hickam 56 Council for putting on the 2nd Annual Airmen's Appreciation Barbecue June 24. The food and entertainment were great, and everyone I talked to was having a fantastic time.

Finally, congratulations to the recent graduates from Hickam's Airmen Leadership School. See the front page of this week's Kukini for a list of the award winners and graduates.

I hope you all have a great four-day weekend. Enjoy the wonderful events put on by the outdoor recreation center and please be safe.

Leadership in joint environment tips

Chief Master Sgt.
John Eckels
Air Force
National Security Agency



Chief Eckels

Get buy-in, always share information and gather input from those that it may affect.

As the National Security Agency/Central Security Service Hawaii Operations senior enlisted leader, I find myself facing more leadership challenges than ever before.

However, no matter the situation or the environment, leadership comes down to the very basics, taking care of people to ensure the mission is accomplished.

We've all heard the phrase "People First, Mission Always." Overseeing more than 1,400 operations personnel from the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines brings to light many challenges.

The biggest challenge I face is manning operations with our most important resource: people. A constant barrage of competing requirements and a globally changing environment due to the Global War on Terror has made this an even bigger challenge.

To effectively lead takes candid communication and compromise with our sister-services, at all levels, from airman basic to master chief.

The following philosophies have helped me through 25 years of military service:

- Be open to discussion. Thinking outside the box is a good thing. Don't get caught up in, "that's the way we've always done it."
- All decisions don't need to be made behind closed doors.

- Never make a "hallway" decision. There's a very good chance you don't have all the information you need to make a smart, informed decision. Always get the facts and then make a decision based on fact not fiction or emotion.
- Be candid and up front on all issues. I believe most people would like to have input and if need be, agree to disagree, rather than not have any input.
- Communicate, collaborate, compromise and cooperate at every level.
- Hold everyone accountable in every aspect of their military lives.

These are just a few philosophies and rules that have helped me throughout my career and continue to do so in this challenging and ever-changing joint environment.

Action Line

The purpose of the Action Line is in its name. It's your direct link to me so we can work as a team to make Hickam a better community.

It also allows you to recognize individuals who go above and beyond in their duties – and we all know there are plenty of those folks here.

All members of Team Hickam are welcome to use the Action Line; however, I urge you to give the normal chain of command the first chance at resolving problems or issues. It's only fair to give our commanders and managers the first opportunity to work issues under their responsibility.

If you have done this and

are still not satisfied, give my commander's Action Line a call.

If you would like me to get back to you, leave your name and number, state your issue, tell me who you have talked to and why you were not satisfied with their response. I'll work your issue and respond verbally or in writing.

The Action Line number is 449-2996. Messages may also be sent by e-mail to 15aw.pal@hickam.af.mil.

Childcare concern

Comment: My issue is childcare for infants. I understand there is not enough. My wife and I have

been trying for the last month and a half to find the childcare for our 6 month old.

My wife works for the Social Security Administration. We have tried both civilian and military, all around the island, and have been unable to find openings for either in-home childcare or childcare centers. Thank you.

Response: Thank you for bringing the need for more infant childcare to our attention. It's true the Hickam infant program is in high demand and the infant childcare waiting lists for both center and home-based care are very long. There is a

long-range construction plan for a new CDC that will help provide additional infant childcare spaces and meet the ever-growing need for childcare on Hickam. Currently, program personnel are working to assist families to find alternative care until a space in the CDC opens.

Also, we will start a marketing campaign to let people know we need more home-based care. Information regarding the campaign can be found on the front page of today's Kukini. If you have additional questions or childcare needs, call the CDC Main at 449-9880 or the Family Child Care Office at 449-1879.

Hickam Diamond Tips

Saluting

The junior member should initiate the salute in time to allow the senior officer to return it.

A superior carrying articles in both hands need not return the salute, but he or she should nod in return or verbally acknowledge the salute. If the junior member is carrying articles in both hands, verbal greetings should be exchanged.

Source: AFMAN 36-2203
Questions? Ask your first sergeant.



The Hickam Kukini is published by Honolulu Advertiser, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 15th Airlift Wing. This commercial enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Content of the Hickam Kukini does not necessarily represent the official views of, or endorsement by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the U.S. Air Force. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts and supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force, or Honolulu Advertiser of the products of services advertised. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 15th Airlift Wing Public Affairs office of Hickam AFB, Hawaii. All photographs are Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated. Correspondence may be sent to 15thAW/PAL, 800 Scott Circle, Hickam AFB, HI 96853-5328.

Hickam Kukini staff 449-6789
E-mail address hickam.kukini@hickam.af.mil
Fax 449-3017
Kukini Online www2.hickam.af.mil/wingpa/news.html
Advertising 521-9111
Hickam Straight Talk Line 449-6789

Hickam Kukini Editorial Staff

Col. William Changose Commander, 15th AW
Capt. Patricia Teran-Matthews Chief, Public Affairs
Tech. Sgt. Andrew Leonhard NCOIC, Internal
Tech. Sgt. Mark Munsey (deployed) Managing Editor
Senior Airman Sarah Kinsman Editor
Joe Novotny Technical Adviser
Rynell Shauf Layout/Design
Sharee Moore Photojournalist

Deadline for copy is noon Thursday for the following Friday's issue. Copy must be typed, double-spaced 12-point type, 300 - 500 words in length, and e-mailed to hickam.kukini@hickam.af.mil.

Crisis Response lines

Hickam Family Support Center
449-0300
Life Skills Support Center
449-0175
Law Enforcement Desk
449-6373
Base Chaplain
449-1754
Military Family Abuse Shelter
533-7125
SARC Hotline
449-7272

Hickam Voices

Who is the greatest American in your opinion and why?



You are! America is great because of each one of us. The country has its faults, but the contributions of each of its citizens is what makes it great. No one can make it happen alone. The sweat, blood and tears of all Americans is what makes this country what it is today.

Chief Master Sgt. Darryl Foster
15th Civil Engineer Squadron



President Theodore Roosevelt. With his vision, he foresaw America on the threshold of emerging as a world power and, with his energy, helped bring it about.

Chief Master Sgt. John Galliano
Pacific Air Forces



Former NFL player Pat Tillman is the greatest American. He walked away from \$3.6 million in the NFL after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks to enlist in the Army as a Ranger because he felt his country needed him. This selfless hero ultimately gave his life in combat in Taliban-infested Afghanistan.

Staff Sgt. Casey Carden
15th Operations Support Squadron



John Glenn served his country and flag in many different aspects such as a soldier, pilot, astronaut, corporate executive, senator and philanthropist for more than 55 years. His patriotism and core values make him the greatest American.

Staff Sgt. Stuart Wilson
Pacific Air Forces



The greatest American has got to be the American voter. The voter has taken a stand to participate as an American leader.

Dr. Stanley Puckett
Pacific Air Forces



Thomas Jefferson is the greatest American of all time. As the primary writer of the Declaration of Independence, he put his life at great risk of treason against Britain to create the United States. His public service spanned 57 years of his 87 years of life.

Airman 1st Class Mike Hickey
25th Air Support Operations Squadron

Next week's question:

July 1: Why do you choose to wear the Air Force uniform?

To respond to this question, send an email to hickam.kukini@hickam.af.mil with a response and phone number to contact you.

GRADUATION, From A1

Edgar Krampitz
Carlos Richardson
Mitchell Soileau
15th Communications Squadron
Andrew Gaskins
Alexander Val Mariano
Raymond Oliande
Benjamin Stolz
Jamie Willemmin
15th Medical Operations Squadron
Le' Joyce Harvey
15th Security Forces Squadron
Vickie Armstead
Joseph Osborne
Matthew Phillips
Andre Tidwell
15th Services Squadron

Johnnie Powell,
Pacific Command
Andrew Bailey
Pacific Air Forces
Joanne Pasion
Sicily Yazzie
Fogavai Faleafaga
John Trottie
25th Air Support Operations Squadron
Nicholas Franda
Danny Gallegos
Scott Snyder
26th Air and Space Intelligence Squadron
Virginia Muniz
292nd Combat Communications Squadron
Charles Albert Lat

324th Intelligence Squadron
Michael Baldwin
Robert Cain,
Rebecca Martin
Tracy Reeves
Ryan Regan
Tameka Wheeler
352nd Information Operations Squadron
Daniel Fulcher
Jonathan Stutsman
502nd Air Operations Squadron
Jessica Girard
624th Aeromedical Squadron
Kimberly Edwards
735th Air Mobility Squadron
Peter Amerpohl
Ryan Bixler

Charles Brittain
Charlotte Cook
Joseph Dye,
Emanuel Perez
Jesse Wade
Shaun Xavier
Joint Intelligence Center Pacific
Justin Bugliesi
Jodi Burris
Steven Davis
Jason Espino
Jason Fairbanks
Det. 1 15th Mission Support Squadron
Elliot Reid
Det. 1 18th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron
Tamika Worsham

Final flight



Photo by Mike Dey

The retired B-25 takes to the skies again as members of the Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor lift it with a crane Saturday in order to transport it as it transitions from being a Hickam landmark to a part of the Pacific Aviation Museum at Ford Island. The B-25 was best known for a daring raid on Tokyo in April 1942 led by Lt. Col. Jimmy Doolittle.

C-17 flies Hawaiian skies

Guard, active combine for first mission

By Staff Sgt. Betty Squatrito-Martin
15th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

The 15th Airlift Wing flew the first locally generated C-17 training sorties here June 19 and 20.

The training missions offered C-17 crews an opportunity to gain experience on the aircraft and an opportunity to familiarize the local community with the C-17 Globemaster III and its mission.

Such opportunities stared the 535th Airlift Squadron in the face when knowledge of a C-17 from the 437th Airlift Wing out of Charleston Air Force Base, S.C. was going to be passing through the Pacific theater. Moreover, the aircraft would be on the ground long enough for the Hickam C-17 crews to take advantage of its presence.

Armed with the knowledge of the C-17's visit, the 535th Airlift Squadron arranged to borrow the visiting aircraft.

With Capt. Chris Van Hoof as the aircraft commander and instructor pilot, the C-17 launched June 19 for its maiden training mission. The 535th aircrew flew to the Big Island and practiced instrument approaches with touch and goes at Kona for pilot proficiency.

After spending approximately one and one-half hours over the Big Island, the crew flew to Kaneohe Marine Corps Air Station and flew visual flight approaches with multiple touch and

goes for about 45 minutes. The aircraft was recovered at Hickam by the 735th Air Mobility Squadron.

On hand for the event were 15th AW Commander Col. Bill "Goose" Changose, 15th Operations Group Commander Col. Steve Groenheim and Lt. Col. Chris Davis, 535th AS commander.

June 20, the 535th and the 154th Wing from the Hawaii Air National Guard teamed up to perform the first locally generated air refueling mission with the C-17. The crew was comprised of three pilots and one loadmaster from the 535th AS, and two pilots and two loadmasters from the HIANG's 204 AS. Col. Scott Chestnut, 15 AW vice commander flew along as an observer.

Capt. Halsey Burks, day two's aircraft commander and instructor pilot, took off from Honolulu and headed for the open skies in the southern warning airspace near Oahu where he and his crew spent nearly two and one half hours practicing air refuel contacts.

The HIANG's 203rd Air Refueling Squadron provided the KC-135 necessary to accomplish the air refueling training.

"With the high demand for KC-135s due to real world conditions, it is difficult to accomplish air refueling training, so it was a real bonus to have the 203 ARS able to generate a trainer to support us in getting actual air refueling training and getting the pilots current in air refueling proficiency," said Colonel Davis.

Capt. Scott Carroll a C-17 pilot from the 535th AS performed the first air refuel contact. "Upon contact, I heard someone from the 203rd ARS say, 'congratulations you have just completed the first air refueling between the HIANG and active duty, hopefully the first of many,'" said Captain Carroll.

According to Captain Carroll, the five pilots on board the C-17 managed

to get seat time, hang on to the boom for a while and gain currency in refueling.

While the aircrews were getting seat time, the maintenance troops were getting in training of their own. According to Colonel Davis, Air Mobility Command put out a directive stating that if a C-17 was to have adequate ground time in a location then C-17 maintainers could get training on the aircraft.

A C-17 from McChord Air Force Base, Wash., was here providing maintenance troops with a vehicle for maintenance training and proficiency.

According to Senior Master Sgt. Jeff Duncan from the aircraft maintenance squadron, maintenance troops trained on the McChord bird June 18, 19 and helped launch it to go home June 20.

In addition to providing a training opportunity, crews want to familiarize the local community with the C-17 Globemaster III aircraft. "We want to show the local community that we're not a big intrusive pest," said Captain Carroll.

As part of further outreach to the community, the 535th AS is setting up a static display at Kona on the Big Island Sunday. The objective is to continue to introduce the local population to the C-17 and its mission in a friendly unobtrusive way, said Captain Carroll.

It was two days of first. It was the first locally generated training flight, the C-17 crews gained first hand experience and the local community caught their first glimpse of the aircraft.

According to Colonel Davis, the delivery of the C-17 is on schedule. The missions that took place over these two days help get the local airfields more familiar with the C-17, and they help the 535th AS iron out the kinks, which helps ensure that the proper processes are in place for the forthcoming C-17 mission.

Make your move: Tricare moves too

Changing duty stations can be hard, with packing and saying goodbye to friends, but Tricare makes changing doctors and regions easy for the entire family, even Tricare-eligible students leaving for college.

Tricare Prime benefits are portable. In other words, the Tricare benefit is the same no matter where a beneficiary lives or travels within the Prime service area. When families transfer, travel or send a child off to college, Tricare benefits are always available with no gaps in coverage.

This feature, which Tricare calls “portability,” eases the transfer for military families who are moving within the Tricare West Region, administered by TriWest Healthcare Alliance, or to another Tricare region.

Those people moving outside their current Tricare region should remain enrolled in that region until they arrive at their new destination. Upon arrival at the new duty station, all they need to do is contact the local Tricare Service Center to enroll in the new region and select a new primary care manager. The regional Tricare contractors will coordinate the transfer, so enrollment will be effective as soon as the new contractor receives the application. In this way, Prime enrollment will be uninterrupted.

If Tricare Prime is not available at the new location, beneficiaries may disenroll before moving and utilize the Tricare Standard option. When they return to a Prime service area, they may reenroll in Prime at any time.

Prime portability is more limited for retirees than for active duty family members. Retirees and their eligible family members pay Tricare Prime enrollment fees and may transfer their enrollment from one Tricare region to another without paying additional enrollment fees. Although retired service members and their eli-

gible family members are allowed unlimited moves within their own Tricare region, they are limited to two moves between regions per year-as long as the second move brings them back to their original Tricare region.

When a Tricare-eligible son or daughter leaves home to attend college as a full-time student, Tricare Prime's “split enrollment” feature will enable students to stay enrolled in Prime. Split enrollment allows Tricare Prime non-active duty families to live and enroll in different Prime service areas or Tricare regions and to pay only one family fee per enrollment period.

For college students to take advantage of Tricare Prime split enrollment, they must be

- enrolled in DEERS,
- under the age of 23,
- enrolled full-time in a program of higher learning as approved by the Secretary of Defense, the Department of Education or a state agency, and
- at least 50-percent financially dependent on a Tricare-eligible sponsor.

Tricare-eligible college students may use military treatment facilities on a space-available basis, use civilian providers under Tricare Standard or Extra, or be allowed to remain enrolled in Tricare Prime. They may remain in Prime if the college or university they attend is located in a Prime service area.

To learn more about TricarePrime portability and split enrollment, visit the TriWest Healthcare Alliance web site at www.triwest.com or the Tricare Management Activity site at www.tricare.osd.mil. TMA's web site also shows which Tricare contractor provides services in the area where your PCS will take you or where your student goes to college. (Information courtesy of TriWest Healthcare Alliance)

JPAC identifies missing servicemen

The Department of Defense Prisoner of War and Missing in Action Accounting Command announced the remains of two U.S. Army servicemembers missing in action from World War II have been identified and will be returned to their families for burial with full military honors.

Virginia resident Army Sgt. John T. Puckett and Kansas resident Army Pvt. Earnest E. Brown were listed as presumed dead after a mission in Belgium.

Puckett, 21 years old, and Brown, 29, were assigned to Company B, 394th Infantry Regiment, 99th Infantry Division which was operating near the town of Elsenborn. Jan. 15, 1945, Puckett and Brown were with a combat patrol that was investigating a wooded area near their camp for German soldiers. The patrol came under enemy gun and mortar fire. Because of the intense enemy activity, rescue and recovery attempts were futile. Puckett and Brown were not seen again.

In 1992, two Belgian nationals, with an interest in the wartime efforts of the 99th Infantry Division, located and excavated an abandoned fighting position in the forest near Elsenborn, Belgium. Their excavation yielded what they believed were the skeletal remains of two American soldiers. The recovered remains and other



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Shane Cuomo

A multi-service casket detail carried the possible remains of U.S. Servicemen from a C-130 Hercules during a repatriation ceremony here June 24. The possible remains are being returned by the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command from Palau, China, North Korea and Laos.

artifacts were turned over to U.S. officials in Europe, and transferred to the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command's Central Identification Laboratory, Hawaii, in September 1999.

In March 2005, JPAC's Central Identification Laboratory officially determined that the remains

were those of Puckett and Brown. Scientists from JPAC used mitochondrial DNA as one of the forensic tools to identify the remains. A pillbox lid and cloth rank insignia that dates to 1944 are personal effects that were also provided to CIL. The items correlated to the last known

area of the two soldiers.

The remains of Brown will be consigned to Sharrett Cemetery, in Bristol, Va. at an unknown date, while the remains of Puckett will be interred in the Ardennes American Cemetery and Memorial, Neuville-en-Conboz, Belgium, June 18.



HICKAM Kukini
The Official Community of the
Hickam Air Force Base

Tell us what you think or would like to see in the Kukini

Team Hickam members can submit letters to the editor to
hickam.kukini@hickam.af.mil

Food for thought



Photo by Jackie Hites
Tom Doyle, (right) Hickam Commissary store director, discusses a food item with a vendor at the American Logistics Association. Key U.S. military buyers from Virginia and California met with Hawaii business owners to consider purchasing a full range of foods including local coffee, tea, chocolate and seafood products to be offered for sale in the commissary system. Commissary directors from around Oahu attended the event.

Car theft: Don’t be the next victim

By Senior Airman
Amy Blake
15th Airlift Wing Legal office

Imagine someone getting ready to park their car and go shopping at the Navy Exchange thinking that nothing will happen to the family car. Inside the car is every CD they own, their Ray Ban sunglasses, body boards in the backseat, and pricey wet suits. When they finally come out of the store, they notice their

driver side window is busted out and everything is gone, or better yet, the entire car is gone. What do they do? On the island of Oahu, the vehicles most likely to be stolen or broken into are Honda’s and Acura’s. However, that doesn’t mean other cars are guaranteed safe from thieves. Every claim brought into the base claim’s office is adjudicated on a case-by-case basis. Every claim is different and

treated as such. Usually, items left in plain sight of the windows would be considered “Invitation to Theft” IAW AFI 51-502. Also, the trunk and glove compartments are not considered “proper” places of storage. Although each claim is looked at individually, the Claims Office IAW AFI 51-502 para 2.35.2.2 can only pay for damage or theft of vehicles if they are located at quarters or other authorized places

(which is defined as military installations, office, building, recreational area, or real estate that the Air Force or DoD uses or controls). Again, each claim is processed on a case-by-case basis. To avoid all this, it’s best if people are smart, lock their doors, and not use their vehicles for a place of storage. Hopefully, people will take the proper precautions and won’t be the next car theft victim.

Crime Scene

Weapons offense

An off-duty patrolman telephoned security forces reporting a suspicious person near building 1120. Further investigation revealed the suspect was carrying an illegal weapon in his backpack. The suspect was charged and released to his chain of command.

Hit and run

An active-duty Air Force member phoned the security forces control center requesting assistance. An unknown person struck his vehicle and fled the scene.

Theft of private property

An active-duty Air Force member notified security forces about two bicycles being stolen from their quarters. Estimated value: \$280.

Shoplifting

A military family member was detained by Army Air Force Exchange Service store detectives for shoplifting. They were processed and eventually released.

Shoplifting

A military family member

was detained by AAFES store detectives for shoplifting. They were processed and eventually released.

Driving while under suspension

A retired Air Force member was stopped for a minor traffic violation. Upon contact, patrolmen found the individual was driving on suspension. The subject was charged and released.

Open container/driving under the influence

A retired Army member was stopped for an open bottle of beer while entering the main gate. Patrolmen informed the subject of the implied consent policy and conducted a standardized field sobriety maneuver, which the subject subsequently failed. The subject was charged and released.

Damage to private property/vandalism

An active duty Air Force member notified security forces about his privately owned vehicle being damaged while parked at the BX.

Give us your feedback

Team Hickam members can submit letters to the editor to hickam.kukini@hickam.af.mil. Tell us what you think or would like to see in Kukini

CHILDCARE, From A1

According to the program philosophy, “the goal of the family child care program on Hickam is to foster children's emotional and cognitive development in a nurturing home environment.”

Providers must meet certain criteria such as they must reside in Hickam housing, be at least 18 years old, be able to read and write English and have a high school diploma or equivalent.

Some perks to being a family childcare provider include the use of the lending library which offers a variety of

equipment necessary to have children in the home including play pins, toys and safety supplies and also U.S. Department of Agriculture reimburses for meals served during childcare hours.

People interested in becoming a family childcare provider can call 449-1879 to sign up for a pre-licensing briefing.

Also, parents looking for a childcare provider can call the FCC staff at 449-1879 or 448-9231 for names and numbers of currently licensed providers.

Family childcare program

Choose a family childcare home:

- Small group, individualized care for each child
- Providers licensed through base agencies with final approval from base commander
- Providers monitored, supported and inspected monthly by FCC staff
- Drop-in, hourly, evening, weekend and TDY care offered
- Providers annually trained in health, safety, nutrition, child guidance, first aid, CPR and business practice.
- Providers required to complete additional hours of child development classes and other programs, including licensing and re-licensing procedures.

Be a family childcare provider:

- Know that you are providing quality childcare and are making a difference.
- Own your own profitable business.
- Be able to stay with your own children and work from home.
- Further your education with free child development, health and safety classes.
- Receive support through other home childcare providers, training and curriculum specialists, and the FCC staff.
- Access the lending library: toys and safety supplies.
- USDA reimbursement for meals served during childcare hours.

Cooking out



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Tamara Williams

Hickam Airmen enjoy free burgers, hot dogs, chips, beverages and cake during the second annual Airmen Appreciation Barbecue hosted by the 56 Council June 24. More than 150 Sky Warrior Airmen took time off from work to start their weekend. Nearly 200 hamburgers and 100 hot dogs were eaten by the hungry crowd.

SQUADRON, From A1

house will be more of an integrated unit. According to Lt. Col. Scott Kimsey, 204th Airlift Squadron, the maintenance troops from the active duty side of the house and maintenance troops from the Guard side of the house will work side by side as if they are members of one organization.

Joining the maintenance group as part of the C-17

family is the 15th Maintenance Operations Group. The 15th MOS stood up June 23, and is the support arm of the new maintenance group here. Maj. Henry Myers commands the 15th MOS.

As noted, training maintenance personnel will be one of the responsibilities of the 15th MOS. Because maintenance is an integra-

tion of both active duty and HIANG members, the 15th MOS will be training active duty and HIANG maintainers.

HIANG members will not be directly assigned to the 15th MOS, said Major Myers, however, all training, including that of Guard members, would be handled by his unit.

The makeup of the new

operations unit will include approximately 50 active duty personnel, and they will be responsible for more than \$60 million in assets, said Major Myers. He added that roughly 33 members were presently on staff.

“I expect the squadron to be at full strength around October,” said Major Myers.



Editor's Note: For complete stories and more information go to www.af.mil

TSP 'open season' is history

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas – The restrictions of having only two open seasons each year for civilian and military members to sign up for, stop, resume, or change their Thrift Savings Plan contributions has ended.

Public Law 108-469, goes into effect July 1, eliminating restrictions on contribution elections that have always been tied to TSP open seasons.

The elimination of open seasons affects civilian and military members who are eligible to contribute to TSP in the following ways:

- Gives individuals more flexibility in managing their TSP contribution amounts depending on their personal situations.

- Civilians can now make 26 or 27 TSP contribution elections per year (based on pay periods) and military personnel 24 per year.

- Contribution elections submitted on or after July 1, will be effective at the beginning of the pay period following the one in which the election is submitted.

"What hasn't changed is the contribution limits set for 2005," said Janet Thomas, of Air Force Personnel Center's civilian benefits and entitlement service team. *(Courtesy of AFPC News)*

Airman tests new body armor

BALAD AIR BASE, Iraq (AFPN) – Carried into the Air Force theater hospital, wounded badly in the shoulder and thigh, a servicemember is lucky to be alive.

The body armor he was wearing protected his vital organs but could not stop the bullets from tearing into his unprotected body parts.

It was not all just luck though.

Armored up



Photo by Senior Airman Jason Robertson

BALAD AIR BASE, Iraq – Tech. Sgt. Gerald Lowry wears new "Level 4" body armor being tested here by Air Force Research Laboratory officials at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. The armor includes a new form of ceramic plate that can withstand more bullet strikes than current plates. It also includes bicep, leg and rib protectors. Sergeant Lowry is a 332nd Expeditionary Communications Squadron network administrator.

The Department of Defense stepped up to the plate during operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom and issued "Level 4" body armor with front and back plates. The only drawback, if there is one, is the weight of the vest: more than 37 pounds.

In an attempt to reduce the weight but increase protection from injuries for their fellow servicemembers, Tech. Sgt. Gerald Lowry, 332nd Expeditionary Communications

Squadron network administrator, and 1st Lt. Todd Turner of the Air Force Research Laboratory Materials and Manufacturing directorate at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, have teamed up to fit-test a new form of body armor while Sergeant Lowry is deployed here.

Just before he deployed, Sergeant Lowry said he noticed an article in the Wright-Patterson newspaper about new advanced body armor. Knowing that

body armor was required for his deployment, Sergeant Lowry called Lieutenant Turner to see if he could do a fit-test.

"I've been deployed four times in my 12-year Air Force career," Sergeant Lowry said. "I know how important safety is, and wearing this stuff makes me feel much safer."

The new armor, which is still being tested by the Air Force, is lighter and includes bicep, leg and rib protectors. The standard ceramic plate will stop a bullet once, but the impact shatters it, Lieutenant Turner said. In contrast, the new plates would be still intact after six bullet strikes. *(Story by Senior Airman Shaun Emery, 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs)*

AF approves campaign medals

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) – Air Force officials have authorized Airmen to wear the Afghanistan Campaign Medal and the Iraqi Campaign Medal.

The Department of Defense campaign medals apply to active-duty Airmen, reservists and guardsmen deployed on or after Oct. 24, 2001, for Operation Enduring Freedom and March 19, 2003, for Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Airmen must have been assigned, attached or mobilized to units operating in Afghanistan or Iraq for 30 consecutive days or 60 nonconsecutive days to be eligible. The ACM is awarded for service for all land areas within and all airspace above Afghanistan. The

ICM is for service covering all land areas within Iraq, all adjoining water areas out to 12 nautical miles and all airspace above those areas.

Airmen are not entitled to more than one campaign and/or expeditionary medal for the same action, achievement or period of service. There are also no devices for either campaign medals or the Global War on Terrorism-Expeditionary Medal.

A period of service is defined as an area of deployment and includes the number of days criteria outlined above. Airmen begin a second period of service when they forward deploy or return to home station and then deploy later.

Airmen deployed to Afghanistan or Iraq, who have 30 consecutive or 60 nonconsecutive days between the eligibility period and April 30, may elect to wear either the appropriate campaign medal or the GWOT-E medal, but not both.

Those who deployed to Afghanistan or Iraq, who have 30 consecutive or 60 nonconsecutive days after April 30 can only earn the respective campaign medal for the area they served in. *(Courtesy of AFPC News Service)*

New Air Force advisor chosen for values, vision

WASHINGTON – Air Force officials have created a new adviser position to help ensure the Air Force's core values are integrated into all aspects of the service's operating concepts, policies and vision.

Rabbi Arnold E. Resni-

coff, former national director of the Interreligious Affairs for the American Jewish Committee, was named special assistant to the secretary of the Air Force and to the chief of staff for values and vision June 24.

Rabbi Resnicoff began work June 27 and will report directly to the secretary, but will also advise the Air Force chief of staff.

In his new position, Rabbi Resnicoff's immediate focus will be to advise Michael L. Dominguez, acting secretary of the Air Force, on how best to implement the recommendations from the Headquarters Review Group and the National Conference on Ministry to the Armed Forces regarding the religious climate at the U.S. Air Force Academy.

The academy recently underwent review by a group sent by Mr. Dominguez to investigate allegations of religious intolerance. The group produced a report that made recommendations on how to improve the climate at the school. Mr. Dominguez said Rabbi Resnicoff is the right person to help implement those recommendations and to help the Air Force ensure core values are present throughout the service.

"Rabbi Resnicoff is the right person at the right time," Mr. Dominguez said. "His unique combination of military service and interfaith experience, combined with being a recognized authority on ethics and values, make him uniquely suited to help us as we strengthen and reaffirm our commitment to our Air Force core values." *(Story by Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez, Air Force Print News)*

NEWS NOTES,

From A1

computers and privately-owned electronic equipment must be unplugged to prevent any damage due to the power surges. For more information, contact Master Sgt. Thomas Yereance at 448-9244.

Volunteers needed – The Airmen’s Attic is in need of permanent volunteers. Times for volunteers to work are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. For more information or to sign up, contact Gloria Ramirez at 449-6986 or Senior Master Sgt. Patrick Patterson at 449-8923.

Road detour – Vehicles will be unable to turn left from O’Malley Boulevard into the Air Mobility Command Terminal and fire station driveway through July 5. For more information, contact Tech. Sgt. Rob Padar at 421-0732.

Change of command – The 15th Comptroller Squadron will conduct a change of command ceremony July 12 at 8 a.m. at the Hickam Channel Memorial Display. A reception will follow at the Hickam Officer’s Club. Customer service operations will be unavailable until 10 a.m.

Power outage claims – Every claim is judged on a case-by-case basis and the base legal office looks into the facts and circumstances surrounding the loss of property.

Also, power outages are not automatically paid. Claimant's must take reasonable care to salvage what they can (i.e. don't open the refrigerator and freezer trying to keep what is left of the cold in; or place food in a cooler with ice to keep cold.)

Also, power surge damage to electronic devices is not considered an unusual occurrence unless lightning has actually struck the claimant's residence or objects outside the residence, such as the transformer box. Other occurrences include when electrical power company records or similar evidence show that a particular residence or group of residences was subjected to a power surge of unusual intensity.

Because it is virtually impossible to distinguish damage caused by a mechanical or electronic defect from surge damage by inspecting the damaged item, neither a statement by a repair firm nor a claimant's honest belief that the loss occurred as a result of a power surge is sufficient to show what caused the damage in the absence of proof of lightning strike or electrical power records that show a power surge.

IAAP training – All network computer users are required to complete Information Assurance Awareness training (formally SATE training) between Oct. 1, 2004 and July 15 in accordance with Public Law 107-347, Title III - Information Security. Members who completed IA training before Oct. 1, 2004 need to accomplish the training on the Air Force Portal Web site.

The goal for Pacific Air Forces is to be 90 percent compliant by June 30 and 100 percent compliant by July 15. For more information, contact the 15th Airlift Wing IA office at 449-0733.